

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 18, 2013

CONTACT: Officer Mark McCullough

(619) 818-4860

mmccullough@pd.sandiego.gov

"Operation Lifesaver" Railroad Enforcement Detail

On Tuesday, March 19, 2013, the San Diego Police Department Traffic Unit, in cooperation with members of the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railroad Police, Carrizo Gorge Railroad Police, Amtrak Railroad Police, Union Pacific Railroad Police, San Diego County Sheriff's Department Railroad Enforcement Unit, and the San Diego Harbor Police will be conducting an enforcement detail at two railroad signal grade crossings in San Diego.

Officers will be conducting enforcement at 1300 South 28th Street and 1800 South 32nd Street between 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., targeting motorist and pedestrian traffic at these railroad tracks.

According to the Federal Railroad Administration Office of Safety Analysis website, the following are statistics for railroad train collisions in the past ten years:

State of California: Railroad Collisions 2001-2011: San Diego Region: Railroad Collisions 2001-2011:

Fatals: 1,083 Fatals: 65 Non-Fatals: 6,226 Non-Fatals: 161 Collisions/Incidents: 8,667 Collisions/Incidents: 234

Operation Lifesaver is a nationwide railroad safety program.

"Operation Lifesaver, Inc., a national non-profit educational organization, seeks to reduce collisions, injuries and fatalities at America's highway rail grade crossings and on the railroad rights-of-way. California's Operation Lifesaver Train Awareness Program is a comprehensive train safety program that consists of the 3 E's: Education, Engineering and Enforcement for California's railroad at-grade crossings and trespassing along the many miles of California's railroad rights-of-way."

The purpose of this joint project with Operation Lifesaver, the San Diego Police Department, BNSF Railroad Police, Carrizo Gorge Railroad Police, Amtrak Railroad Police, Union Pacific Railroad Police, San Diego County Sheriff Department, and the San Diego Harbor Police is to educate and provide enforcement at these railway crossing locations in an effort to reduce future train collisions that result in injuries and fatalities.

Operation Lifesaver Southern California representatives will pass out train safety flyers at both intersections to promote railway safety.

###